



The President's Daily Brief

2 October 1973

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FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

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PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

	Israel and Jordan	

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France is developing a flexible doctrine for use of its tactical nuclear weapons that could be in harmony with NATO strategy. *(Page 2)*

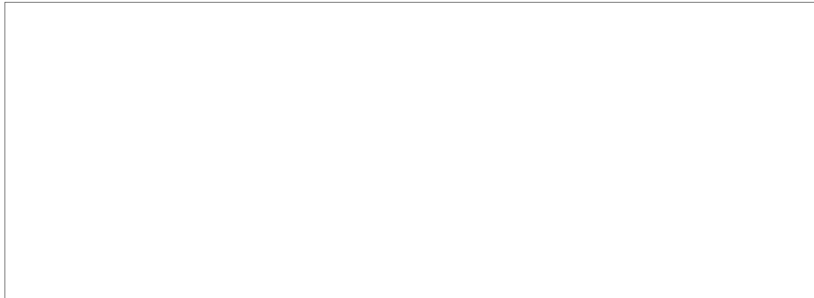
The installation of a civilian government in Greece marks a further stage in the consolidation of President Papadopoulos' power, but in the long run it could bring him new problems. *(Page 3)*

For the first time, Abu Dhabi has sent troops to Oman to aid in the war against leftist guerrillas in Dhofar Province. *(Page 4)*

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SYRIA-ISRAEL-JORDAN



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FRANCE

The Quai's director of disarmament affairs has told US diplomats that the French no longer hold that they should automatically respond to a Soviet attack in Europe with strategic weapons, but rather that such a response should be withheld until it is determined that a major assault was occurring. If such a determination is made, the French might consider a demonstration use of strategic weapons or the use of tactical nuclear weapons as a first step in what could become a ladder of nuclear escalation. The official added, however, that France would not associate itself officially with NATO's planning for flexible response.

This is the clearest indication that the French are trying to put together a doctrine for use of their newly developed tactical nuclear weapons, and an example of progress in technology forcing changes in policy. Ex-defense minister Debré had little interest in formulating a tactical doctrine, and in fact contended that uncertainty in this matter enhanced the credibility of the deterrent.

Now it appears that the French are evolving a flexible response of their own, one less in contrast with that of NATO and the US. The French doctrine probably will develop as separate--though not necessarily divergent--from NATO's, based on the assumption that France must maintain absolute control over its nuclear forces.

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GREECE

The designation of Spyros Markezinis as prime minister and the installation of an all-civilian cabinet within a week may in the long run increase President Papadopoulos' political problems.

Markezinis is a career politician who will add an authoritative voice to pressure for political liberalization. Despite Papadopoulos' determination to retain full control of the government, Markezinis will eventually try to enlarge his freedom for maneuver.

This is bound to frighten those former military colleagues of the President who strongly oppose measures toward moderation, which in their view endanger the gains for which they revolted six years ago. Some of these have their doubts about Papadopoulos himself. They resent his growing personal power and fear that he is moving away from the goals of the military coup.

Papadopoulos intends the removal of the military from the cabinet as a major step toward the normalcy he has promised. So far he has succeeded in outmaneuvering his opponents. His latest moves, however, will tax his ability to contend with disgruntlement from both left and right.

Abu Dhabi Troops to Northern Oman



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NOTE

Abu Dhabi - Oman: About 300 members of the Abu Dhabi Defense Force will take up garrison duties in northern Oman in early October, relieving Omani gendarmerie units for service against the rebels in Dhofar Province. The Omani Army--only 7,500 strong--is stretched thin by the protracted guerrilla war being waged by the leftist Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman and the Arab Gulf with the backing of Yemen (Aden). That conflict will probably intensify in the coming weeks as the monsoon season comes to an end.

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